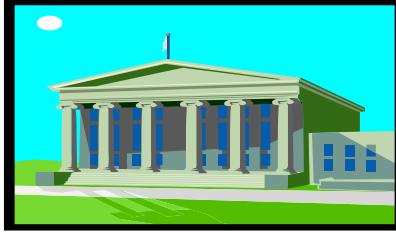


# *The United States Federal Court System*



## **United States Supreme Court**

- 1 Chief Justice and 8 Associate Justices
- President appoints justices for life with the advice and consent of the senate
- Court reviews cases and decides which to hear
- Final authority in all matters regarding the U.S. Constitution and federal law

## **United States Courts of Appeals**

- 12 regional circuits and one federal circuit
- Varying number of judges in each circuit- 179 total judgeships
- President appoints justices for life with the advice and consent of the Senate
- Hears all cases that are brought before it
- California part of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals which includes 7 other states

## **United States District Courts**

- 94 districts throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico, with at least one district in each state
- 600 judgeships total
- President appoints justices for life with the advice and consent of the Senate
- Federal level trial courts
- Authority to handle cases involving federal law